

Applicant: Hermann Grether
Application No.: 10/519,572

Amendments to Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1, 14 and 15. These sheets, which include Figs. 1, 14 and 15, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1, 14 and 15. In Figs. 1, 14 and 15, reference numeral 22 has been corrected to correctly reflect the described longitudinal ridges shown in Figs. 1 and 15.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After the foregoing Amendment, Claims 34 - 67 are currently pending in this application. Claims 34 - 35, 37 - 47, and 50 - 67 have been amended to correct errors in the original translation and to provide proper antecedent basis for limitations. In the specification, paragraph [0063] has been amended to correspond with a drawing correction. In the drawings, Figures 1, 14 and 15 have been amended to correct the indication of reference numeral 22. Applicant submits that no new matter has been introduced into the application by these amendments.

Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. The amendment of claims 35, 47 and 64 obviate the objection to those claims. Further, replacement sheets including Figures 1, 14 and 15, which have been revised to correct the indication of reference numeral 22, are submitted herewith. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 34-67 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The amendment of claims 34 – 35, 37 – 47, and 51 – 67 obviate the rejection under § 112.

It is noted that “downstream” was improperly translated in claims 35, 40 and 47. Support for the corrective amendment is found in the specification, at least, at paragraphs: [0037]; [0054] – [0057] and [0060]. Support is also found in the drawings, i.e. regulating device (4) has to be downstream of separating device (5) so that the separated jets impinge in the junction points (10).

Accordingly, the rejection of claims 34 – 67 under § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 34-60 and 64-67 stand rejected as being anticipated by Grether (U.S. Patent No. 6,152,182).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

The invention as currently claimed in claim 34 is a sanitary component having a jet regulating device in the interior of a mounting housing. The jet regulating device includes at least one mounted element mountable in the mounting

housing, which has ridges oriented transverse to a flow direction. Between the ridges passageways are defined. The ridges of the mounted element are arranged in the form of a grid or a mesh, which cross at junction points.

The '182 patent fails to show a jet regulating device mounted in the interior of a mounting housing as is currently claimed. Further, the '182 patent does not show or suggest a mounted element mountable in a mounting housing, having ridges oriented transverse to a flow direction, nor does it show or suggest ridges of the mounted element are arranged in the form of a grid or a mesh, which cross at junction points, as is claimed. It is also noted that the '182 patent does not show or suggest that the individual jets impinge upon junction points (10) of the at least one mounted element (5a, 5c), as claimed in claim 35.

Accordingly, the rejection of claims 40-60 and 64-67 under § 102 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 61-63 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable to Grether in view of Flieger (U.S. Patent No. 6,588,682).

Claims 61 – 63 are dependent upon claim 34, which the Applicant believes is allowable over the cited prior art of record for the reasons provided above. It is also

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noted that Flieger fails to show a housing part having at least one soft or water-repellent water surface as is claimed in claim 61.

Furthermore, Flieger actually teaches away from the invention in column 5, line 30 stating: "Particularly as a result of the smooth-walled limitation or boundary of the guide and outflow channels 13 and the absence of jet splitting screens towards its interior, the jet ventilator only has a limited calcification tendency."

Based on the arguments presented above, withdrawal of the § 103 rejection of claims 61 - 63 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

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In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 34 - 67, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures (3 Drawing Replacement Sheets)